

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 177158  
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EUR/EE:NGANDREWS

-----005792 140125Z /75

R 132038Z JUL 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 177158

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, YO, US

SUBJECT:LETTER FROM DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL CIVILETTI

1. A LETTER TO DEPUTY INTERIOR MINISTER JURISIC IS BEING  
POUCHED TO THE EMBASSY FOR DELIVERY TO THE MINISTRY OF  
INTERIOR. LETTER IS IN RESPONSE TO A MEMORANDUM ON  
ANTI-YUGOSLAV ACTIVITIES PRESENTED BY JURISIC DURING THE  
TITO VISIT. TEXT FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN TEXT.  
HONORABLE DRASKO JURISIC  
DEPUTY MINISTER OF INTERIOR  
SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA  
BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA  
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AT OUR MEETING ON MARCH 8, 1978 YOU FURNISHED ME A  
MEMORANDUM AND THREE ATTACHMENTS PERTAINING TO THE PROBLEMS  
OF ANTI-YUGOSLAV ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES. THE  
MEMORANDUM RECOGNIZES THE STEPS TAKEN BY THE ADMINISTRATION  
OF PRESIDENT CARTER TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM, AND LISTS 17  
INCIDENTS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN THE UNITED STATES FOR

THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 10, 1975 - NOVEMBER 10, 1977; AN INCIDENT IN YUGOSLAVIA IN THE PREPARATION FOR WHICH AN AMERICAN IS ALLEGED TO HAVE PARTICIPATED; AND GENERAL

INFORMATION CONCERNING ANTI-YUGOSLAV ACTIVITIES. ATTACHMENT (1) CONTAINS BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON EMIGRE ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE WITHIN THE UNITED STATES. ATTACHMENT (2) LISTS 35 INCIDENTS OF "TERRORIST" ACTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 10, 1961 - NOVEMBER 10, 1977, AND THREE INCIDENTS WHICH OCCURRED IN EUROPE FROM 1972 - 1974. ATTACHMENT (3) IS ENTITLED "EXAMPLES OF TOLERATION OF FASCIST EMIGRANTS IN THE U.S.A.".

THE EXPRESSION OF RECOGNITION BY THE SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA OF THE EFFORTS OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S ADMINISTRATION AGAINST TERRORISM IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

YOU WILL RECALL THAT HIS EXCELLENCY AMBASSADOR DIMCE BELOVSKI IN HIS MEETING WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ON AUGUST 10, 1977 REFERRED TO MANY OF THE INCIDENTS LISTED IN YOUR MEMORANDUM, AND THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL BY LETTER DATED JANUARY 16, 1978 FURNISHED THE AMBASSADOR A DETAILED REPORT CONCERNING THE STATUS OF THE INVESTIGATIONS OF THE LISTED INCIDENTS. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ALSO GAVE HIS COMMITMENT THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WILL CONTINUE TO DILIGENTLY INVESTIGATE AND PROSECUTE ANY CONFIDENTIAL

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FEDERAL CRIMES COMMITTED AGAINST THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY OR PERSONNEL IN THE UNITED STATES.

IN VIEW OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT TO THE AMBASSADOR ON THE STATUS OF THE MORE RECENT INCIDENTS REFERRED TO IN YOUR MEMORANDUM, I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT A DETAILED STATUS REPORT OF ALL THE INCIDENTS WHICH YOU HAVE LISTED IS NECESSARY.

I WOULD REPORT, HOWEVER, THAT THE FBI INVESTIGATION OF THE FIRE ON AUGUST 15, 1977 AT THE CONSULATE IN SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, IS CONTINUING. NUMEROUS SUSPECTS HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED AND THE PROSPECTS FOR SOLVING THIS ARSON ARE CONSIDERED FAIR. THE MATTER OF THE FIRE ON MARCH 4, 1978 AT THE SAME CONSULATE HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, AND HE HAS DETERMINED THAT THE INCIDENT CONSTITUTES A FEDERAL OFFENSE. THE FBI IS CONTINUING TO INVESTIGATE THE INCIDENT. ATTACHMENT (1) TO YOUR MEMORANDUM HAS BEEN FURNISHED TO THE FBI TO ASSIST IN THE INVESTIGATION OF FEDERAL CRIMES.

I HAVE NOTED THE POINTS YOU RAISE IN ATTACHMENT (3).

YOU MENTION THAT CERTAIN EMIGRE PAPERS ARE PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED IN THE UNITED STATES WHICH "OPENLY CALL FOR ARMED STRUGGLE AGAINST THE SFRJ"; ONE PAPER, "PUBLISHES INSTRUCTION ON HOW TO CONDUCT DIVERSIONIST AND GUERRILLA ACTIONS"; AND "THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES DIDN'T TAKE ANY

STEPS TO PRECLUDE DISSEMINATION OF THESE PUBLICATIONS." THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION PROVIDES "CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW . . . ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH, OR OF THE PRESS . . .". HENCE, THERE IS NO FEDERAL STATUTE WHICH WOULD AUTHORIZE THE UNITED STATES TO TAKE ACTION TO PRECLUDE THE DISSEMINATION OF SUCH PUBLICATIONS.

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CONCERNING OTHER MATTERS REFERRED TO IN YOUR MEMORANDUM, WE KNOW OF NO EVIDENCE THAT WOULD SUBSTANTIATE THE ALLEGATIONS APPARENTLY AIRED ON SWEDISH TELEVISION CONCERNING THE EXISTENCE OF TRAINING SITES FOR ANTI-YUGOSLAV GUERRILLAS IN THE UNITED STATES. FURTHER, WHILE WE ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE COMMENTS MADE BY FORMER AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN ON THE PROGRAM IN QUESTION, YOU SHOULD RECOGNIZE THAT MR. SILBERMAN IS NOW A PRIVATE CITIZEN WHO HOLDS NO GOVERNMENTAL POSITION OF ANY KIND. HENCE, HIS APPEARANCE AND REMARKS ARE PURELY PRIVATE MATTERS.

WITH REFERENCE TO THE QUESTION OF U.S. VISAS FOR ALLEGED TERRORISTS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY SPECIFIC EVIDENCE THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT MAY HAVE WHICH LINKS RECENT OR PROSPECTIVE VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES TO SPECIFIC CRIMINAL ACTS. WE HAVE NOTED YOUR CHARGE THAT ONEMARINKO LEMO WAS INVOLVED IN THE MURDER OF FORMER YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR VLADIMIR ROLOVIC. OUR RECORDS DO NOT INDICATE THAT A PERSON OF THIS NAME HAS ENTERED THE UNITED STATES. IF HE TRAVELLED UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME, IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR US TO KNOW WHAT NAME HE USED, IF SUCH INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE TO THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT. WE WILL, I ASSURE YOU, MAKE EVERY POSSIBLE EFFORT TO SEE THAT PERSONS INVOLVED IN CRIMINAL TERRORIST ACTIVITIES DO NOT USE THE UNITED STATES AS A MEETING OR TRANSFER POINT.

THE VISIT OF MIRKO VIDOVIC TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE DOES NOT, IN OUR VIEW, CONSTITUTE DIRECT OR IMPLICIT SUPPORT EITHER FOR TERRORISM OR FOR ANY POLITICAL GOAL WHICH MR. VIDOVIC MAY ESPOUSE. ON THE CONTRARY, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE MADE THE POINT IN THAT MEETING AND IN NUMEROUS OTHER CONTACTS WITH MEMBERS OF THE EMIGRE COMMUNITY THAT WE ATTACH MAJOR IMPORTANCE TO GOOD U.S.-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS  
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AND THAT WE CATEGORICALLY OPPOSE TERRORISM IN ALL FORMS AND FOR WHATEVER ALLEGED PURPOSES. MR. VIDOVIC'S CALL WAS ARRANGED BY AN AMERICAN PROFESSOR WHO ACCOMPANIED MR. VIDOVIC. AS A MATTER OF GENERAL POLICY, OFFICERS OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND OTHER U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

MAKE THEMSELVES AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS ( AND OCCASIONALLY THEIR GUESTS) REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE VIEWS THEY HOLD ACCORD WITH THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT. THE FACT THAT SUCH A CALL MAY BE USED FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES LATER DOES NOT ALTER OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO OUR CITIZENS, NOR DOES IT CHANGE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE CONVERSATION, WHICH COULD NOT REMOTELY BE CONSTRUED AS SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM OR FOR ANY ANTI-YUGOSLAV VIEWS. THIS INFORMATION AND THE POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ON THIS QUESTION HAVE BEEN RELAYED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON WHO INQUIRED ABOUT MR. VIDOVIC'S CALL.

I RENEW THE ASSURANCE GIVEN BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WILL DILIGENTLY INVESTIGATE AND PROSECUTE ANY FEDERAL CRIMES COMMITTED AGAINST THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY OR PERSONNEL IN THE UNITED STATES.

SINCERELY,

BENJAMIN R. CIVILETTI  
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL.

END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 13 jul 1978  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**TAGS:** PINS, YO, US, (JURISIC, DRASKO), (CIVILETTI, BENJAMIN R)  
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**Type:** TE  
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